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Report of the Human Rights Council

Report of the Third Committee

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I. Introduction

1. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 16 September 2016, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its seventy-first session the item entitled "Report of the Human Rights Council" and to allocate it to both the plenary and the Third Committee, in accordance with its resolution 65/281 and its decision 65/503 A.

2. The Third Committee held a general discussion on the item at its 45th and 46th meetings, on 4 and 8 November 2016, and considered a proposal and took action under the item at its 49th and 53rd meetings, on 15 and 21 November 2016. An account of the Committee's discussion is contained in the relevant summary records.[1]

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the reports of the Human Rights Council on its twenty-fourth special session, thirty-first session and thirty-second session (A/71/53), on its thirty-third session (A/71/53/Add.1), and on its twenty-fifth special session (A/71/53/Add.2).

4. At the 45th meeting, on 4 November, the President of the Human Rights Council made a statement and engaged in a dialogue with the representatives of Algeria, China, South Africa, Argentina, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Costa Rica, the Republic of Korea, Brazil, Maldives, Ireland, Mexico, Germany, the Russian Federation, Liechtenstein (also on behalf of Australia, Iceland, New Zealand, Norway and Switzerland), Canada, Hungary, Iraq, the Sudan, Denmark, Indonesia, Ethiopia, the United States of America, Palau,

* Reissued for technical reasons on 15 December 2016.
[1] A/C.3/71/SR.45, A/C.3/71/SR.46, A/C.3/71/SR.49 and A/C.3/71/SR.53.

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Morocco, Egypt, Switzerland, the Syrian Arab Republic, India and Burundi, as well as with the observer of the European Union.

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.3/71/L.46 and the amendment thereto contained in document A/C.3/71/L.52

5. At the 49th meeting, on 15 November, the representative of Botswana, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Report of the Human Rights Council" (A/C.3/71/L.46) and orally revised operative paragraph 2 thereof.[2] Subsequently, Pakistan, Qatar, the Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

6. At the 53rd meeting, on 21 November, the representative of Botswana, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States, made a statement. Subsequently, Yemen joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

Action on the amendment contained in document A/C.3/71/L.52

7. At the same meeting, the Chair drew the attention of the Committee to the amendment to draft resolution A/C.3/71/L.46, submitted by Albania, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Panama, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America and Uruguay, contained in document A/C.3/71/L.52.

8. At the same meeting, the representative of Brazil made a statement in connection with the draft amendment.

9. Subsequently, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Honduras, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Serbia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Ukraine joined in sponsoring the draft amendment.

10. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted the amendment contained in document A/C.3/71/L.52 by a recorded vote of 84 to 77, with 17 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kiribati, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania,

[2] See A/C.3/71/SR.49.

Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Panama, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia, Seychelles, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Turkey, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam.

Against:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Benin, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, China, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guyana, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lesotho, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Namibia, Nauru, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Togo, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uzbekistan, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Abstaining:

Armenia, Barbados, Bhutan, Ecuador, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, India, Kazakhstan, Liberia, Myanmar, Nepal, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Philippines, Rwanda, Somalia, Trinidad and Tobago.

11. Before the vote, statements were made by the representatives of Botswana (on behalf of the Group of African States), Slovakia (on behalf of the European Union), the United States, the Republic of Korea, Mexico, Japan, Egypt (on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Thailand, the Congo, Singapore, Israel, Jamaica, Yemen, Cameroon, the Russian Federation, South Africa, Burundi and Nigeria.

12. After the vote, statements were made by the representatives of Norway (also on behalf of Australia, Canada, Iceland, Liechtenstein, New Zealand and Switzerland), Paraguay, Malaysia and Chile (also on behalf of Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Mexico and Uruguay).

Action on draft resolution A/C.3/71/L.46 as a whole

13. At the 53rd meeting, on 21 November, the representative of the Russian Federation made a statement and announced the withdrawal of its co-sponsorship of the draft resolution, as orally revised and amended.

14. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/71/L.46 as orally revised and amended, by a recorded vote of 94 to 3, with 80 abstentions (see para. 17). The voting was as follows:[3]

[3] The delegations of Mali and Mauritius subsequently indicated that they had intended to vote in favour.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritania, Mexico, Morocco, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Belarus, Israel, Mauritius.

Abstaining:

Albania, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Barbados, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kiribati, Latvia, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mali, Malta, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Myanmar, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Turkey, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu.

15. Before the vote, statements were made by the representatives of the Russian Federation, Botswana (on behalf of the Group of African States), Egypt (on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Nigeria, Israel and Liechtenstein (also on behalf of Australia, Canada, Iceland, New Zealand, Norway and Switzerland).

16. After the vote, statements were made by the representatives of Slovakia (on behalf of the European Union), Costa Rica, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Nauru, Singapore, Belarus, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Botswana (on behalf of the Group of African States), Mauritania, Jamaica, Libya, Uganda, Cameroon, Yemen, the Sudan, the United Republic of Tanzania and Niger.

III. Recommendation of the Third Committee

17. The Third Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Report of the Human Rights Council

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 60/251 of 15 March 2006, by which it established the Human Rights Council, and 65/281 of 17 June 2011 on the review of the Council,

Recalling also its resolutions 62/219 of 22 December 2007, 63/160 of 18 December 2008, 64/143 of 18 December 2009, 65/195 of 21 December 2010, 66/136 of 19 December 2011, 67/151 of 20 December 2012, 68/144 of 18 December 2013, 69/155 of 18 December 2014 and 70/136 of 17 December 2015,

Having considered the recommendations contained in the report of the Human Rights Council,[1,2]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Human Rights Council,[1] including the addenda thereto,[2] and its recommendations.

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[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/71/53).
[2] Ibid., *Supplement No. 53* (A/71/53/Add.1 and Add.2).